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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

County Medical Officer of Health

for the Year

1944

W. S. H. CAMPBELL, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

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GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of Administrative County	961,278 acres
Population (census 1931)	263,498
Estimated Population 1944	...	...	...	265,860
Number of inhabited houses (census 1931)	...	...	...	66,654
Number of separate families or occupiers (census 1931)	...	...	...	68,121
Average number of persons per house (census 1931)	...	...	...	3.9
Rateable value at 1st April, 1943	...	...	...	£1,279,834
Estimated product of a penny rate, 1944	...	...	...	£5,184
Sanitary Districts				Populations (Estimated 1944)
Municipal Boroughs	3	...	...	80,450
Urban Districts	...	9	...	49,110
Rural Districts	...	9	...	...
				129,560
				136,300

VITAL STATISTICS

The vital statistics for 1944 compare favourably with any yet published for the County. The Birth rate is the highest since 1921. The death rate is amongst the lowest recorded.

The mortality of infants under one year of age is only slightly above the record low year of 1941. Deaths from tuberculosis, cancer and heart disease have also fallen slightly during the year.

Live Births:—

Legitimate	...	...	...	...	5,131
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	444
				Total	5,575
Birth Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	...	20.96

Still Births:—

Legitimate	...	...	...	...	131
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	12
				Total	143
Rate of still births per 1,000 total births	...	...	...	...	25.00
Deaths:—	...	...	...	Total	3,111
Crude death rate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	...	11.7

Deaths from Diseases and accidents of Pregnancy and Childbirth:—

From Sepsis	...	...	...	...	2
Other causes	...	...	...	...	12
Maternal Death Rate per 1,000 total births	...				2.4
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age	...				234
Death Rate:—					
All Infants per 1,000 live births	...	...			41.97
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births					39.17
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births					74.32
Deaths from Heart Disease	...	...			783
Deaths from Cancer	...	...	...		457
Deaths from Tuberculosis:—					
(a) Pulmonary	...	...	...		81
(b) Other forms	...	...	...		40

LIVE BIRTHS, 1944

Districts	Total Births	Legitimate	Illegitimate
URBAN			
Alford	32	26	6
Barton-on-Humber	108	100	8
Brigg	79	73	6
Cleethorpes Borough	540	492	48
Gainsborough	356	333	23
Horncastle	55	51	4
Louth Borough	193	172	21
Mablethorpe and Sutton	95	87	8
Market Rasen	33	30	3
Scunthorpe Borough	1098	1036	62
Skegness	192	166	26
Woodhall Spa	41	36	5
Aggregate Urban Districts	2822	2602	220
RURAL			
Glanford Brigg	630	586	44
Caistor	236	213	23
Gainsborough	224	212	12
Grimsby	198	180	18
Horncastle	205	187	18
Isle of Axholme	255	242	13
Louth	300	276	24
Spilsby	427	381	46
Welton	278	252	26
Aggregate Rural Districts	2753	2529	224
Whole County	5575	5131	444

STILL-BIRTHS, 1944

Districts	Legitimate	Illegitimate	Total
URBAN			
Alford	1	—	1
Barton-on-Humber	2	1	3
Brigg	1	—	1
Cleethorpes Borough	9	—	9
Gainsborough	8	1	9
Horncastle	4	2	6
Louth Borough	6	—	6
Mablethorpe and Sutton	4	—	4
Market Rasen	1	—	1
Scunthorpe Borough	27	4	31
Skegness	4	—	4
Woodhall Spa	1	—	1
Aggregate Urban Districts	68	8	76
RURAL			
Glanford Brigg	17	1	18
Caistor	5	—	5
Gainsborough	7	—	7
Grimsby	5	—	5
Horncastle	1	1	2
Isle of Axholme	9	1	10
Louth	10	1	11
Spilsby	5	—	5
Welton	4	—	4
Aggregate Rural Districts	63	4	67
Whole County	131	12	143

Causes of Death in each District in the County at all Ages—1944

DISTRICT	Typhoid and Para-typhoid Fever	Cerebro-spinal Fever	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	Other Forms of Tuberculosis	Syphilitic Diseases	Influenza	Measles	Acute Polio Myel. and Polio Enceph.	Acute Inf. Enceph.	Cancer of B. Cav. and Oesoph. (M) Uterus (F)	Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	Cancer of Breast	Cancer of all other Sites	Diabetes	Intra. Cran. Vasc. Lesions	Heart Disease	Other Diseases of Circulatory System	Bronchitis	Pneumonia	Other Respiratory Diseases	Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	Diarrhoea under 2 years	Appendicitis	Other Digestive Diseases	Nephritis	Puer. and Post-Abort. Sepsis	Other Maternal Causes	Premature Birth	Con. Mal. Birth Inj. Infant Disease	Suicide	Road Traffic Accidents	Other Violent Causes	All other Causes	No. of Deaths	
URBAN																																						
Alford	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	4	10	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	12	39
Barton-on-Humber	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	8	2	16	21	3	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	3	—	1	3	9	72
Brigg	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	2	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	2	4	7	1	2	1	2	1	—	—	2	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	1	3	40
Cleethorpes Borough	—	—	—	—	—	6	2	1	—	—	—	—	4	7	5	25	8	28	74	2	19	7	3	3	2	—	4	9	1	1	12	12	2	2	6	35	280	
Gainsborough	—	—	—	1	1	14	3	—	1	—	—	—	3	8	3	18	1	32	55	10	15	5	—	3	—	1	5	4	—	—	2	4	1	2	6	17	215	
Horncastle	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	7	3	10	15	1	2	—	1	—	1	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	6	56	
Louth Borough	—	—	—	—	—	6	3	2	—	—	—	—	4	5	2	10	1	20	35	—	9	1	3	1	1	1	5	7	—	—	2	4	—	1	2	22	147	
Mablethorpe & Sutton	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	5	—	13	15	3	1	—	2	1	1	—	—	3	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	5	59	
Market Rasen	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	4	—	1	3	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	10	29	
Scunthorpe Borough	—	1	—	2	—	11	4	3	3	—	1	—	10	14	3	31	3	45	87	12	28	15	3	3	1	2	11	12	1	5	8	14	3	1	8	50	395	
Skegness	—	—	—	1	—	7	2	—	1	—	—	—	3	1	2	8	2	18	40	4	4	2	—	1	—	1	10	3	—	—	2	2	1	—	4	11	130	
Woodhall Spa	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	8	—	2	5	1	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	3	26	
Total	—	2	—	4	1	51	19	7	10	—	1	—	29	40	15	128	22	193	367	39	86	31	16	13	6	5	47	44	2	6	29	42	8	11	31	183	1488	
RURAL																																						
Glanford Brigg	—	—	1	2	2	—	5	2	—	—	—	—	7	5	5	27	4	30	83	19	7	14	6	2	3	1	10	8	—	2	5	12	—	5	12	49	328	
Caistor	—	—	1	—	—	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	5	4	11	2	15	33	1	8	4	2	—	2	2	4	2	—	—	4	3	—	2	2	28	140	
Gainsborough	—	—	—	—	—	5	3	1	1	—	—	—	3	4	1	10	1	16	30	3	4	—	—	1	1	—	1	2	—	2	4	3	1	—	6	19	122	
Grimsby	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	1	1	—	—	—	2	8	2	13	—	16	18	5	4	1	1	1	1	—	3	4	—	1	2	1	—	2	2	6	99	
Horncastle	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	6	—	—	—	5	2	3	18	1	26	33	5	9	5	2	—	—	1	4	—	—	—	—	1	3	1	2	2	12	145
Isle of Axholme	—	1	—	1	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	14	—	29	40	4	13	2	4	—	—	—	1	14	—	—	2	4	1	—	—	15	152	
Louth	—	1	—	1	—	8	2	—	3	—	1	—	3	3	2	20	1	19	54	1	10	6	4	1	—	2	2	4	—	—	2	4	1	4	4	28	191	
Spilsby	—	1	—	1	—	9	1	—	9	—	—	—	2	8	3	30	1	38	72	7	15	6	2	—	1	2	10	6	—	1	10	6	1	1	7	31	281	
Welton	—	1	1	1	—	2	2	1	5	—	—	—	4	6	1	9	2	19	53	6	7	5	1	1	—	—	2	5	—	—	7	6	1	2	2	13	165	
Total	—	4	3	6	2	30	21	5	26	—	1	—	27	44	22	152	12	208	416	51	77	43	22	6	8	8	37	45	—	6	37	42	6	18	37	201	1623	
Administrative County	—	6	3	10	3	81	40	12	36	—	2	—	56	84	37	280	34	401	783	90	163	74	38	19	14	13	84	89	2	12	66	84	14	29	68	384	3111	

Sanitary Inspection

The staff of District Sanitary Inspectors has been further depleted during the year. Owing to the demand of the Services it is almost impossible to obtain qualified Sanitary Inspectors and the work of the District Councils is consequently being restricted in several directions. The result is a large accumulation of work which will have to be tackled in the immediate post war years.

Housing

In accordance with the recommendation of the "Hobhouse Report" on rural housing a Joint Advisory Committee has been set up for the County. This Committee has appointed a Sub-Committee to advise on technical matters arising. Standards, methods of procedure, records etc. have been agreed on. It is estimated that the initial survey will involve the inspection of over 32,000 houses. This will necessitate the appointment of additional staff and as Sanitary Inspectors are not available the District Councils have been recommended to appoint one or more unqualified men, preferably those with some knowledge of building, who after having attended a short course of instruction would carry out the inspections under the direction of the Sanitary Inspector.

Rural Water Supplies

Apart from schemes for supply to individual farms which, when approved by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, are grant earning, very few extensions and no schemes of any size have been completed. Every rural district in the County is now preparing a scheme or schemes of water supply under the Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Act, 1944, and it is pleasing to note that every scheme is planned to conform with that of the contiguous authority and thus with the County Scheme in general.

The appointment of consulting engineers who make use of existing information and statistics has resulted in progress which could not be expected from the present meagre permanent staffs with their multifarious duties.

Scavenging

Still, the more remunerative and pleasant contract work continues to attract labour and transport formerly available for this work and it becomes increasingly apparent that direct labour is the only efficient solution to this problem.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

The passing of the Water Supplies and Sewerage Act, 1944, opens up a new outlook on the question of sewage disposal in rural districts

and the supply of piped water will force early consideration of the joint problem. A sewerage scheme does not necessarily entail a battery of filter beds complete with pumping machinery; too little use is made of the septic tank system for small hamlets and individual houses and while local circumstances must always be the deciding factor, a water carriage system should not be withheld if any satisfactory method of sewage disposal is possible.

The schemes now in course of preparation by rural district councils will, when completed, remove one big objection to life in the country, but in several of the more urban localities the present facilities will have to be modernised and enlarged.

Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936

The general labour shortage on farms is still affecting the general standard of cleanliness in cowsheds, the appearance of cows and premises not being quite so good as in former years, but the percentage of unsatisfactory samples is slightly lower. During the year 17 T.T. and 185 Accredited licences were issued, 2 T.T. and 1 Accredited were surrendered, 5 Accredited licences revoked and 2 Accredited licences suspended for three months and subsequently restored.

A total of 527 samples were examined and 22 T.T., or 34%, were unsatisfactory while 189 Accredited, or 41%, were unsatisfactory.

With the introduction of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Advisory Testing Scheme and the issue of quarterly reports on the Routine Resozurin Test, many producers are confused and sometimes aggrieved when adverse reports on designated samples are received. It is often difficult to convince them that the schemes have rather different objectives, but the furnishing of reports on the standard of production or keeping quality of milk when received at the depot keeps them constantly aware of their responsibilities.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938

During the year a total of 866 samples were taken; of these 436 were of milk and the remainder of drugs and other foods decided upon after consultation with the Public Analyst and after consideration of the Annual Report of the Minister of Health.

The number of adulterated samples was 31, or 3.5%, of the total; of these, 27 were milk.

A Sub-Committee of the Scientific Advisory Committee has now issued a report on the Freezing Point (Hortvet) Test of Milk and in their opinion the test is capable of furnishing conclusive evidence regarding the presence or absence of added water and enables genuine milks with naturally occurring low solids—not fat contents—to be differentiated from watered milk.

It is to be hoped that this test is given legal recognition.

The nature of the adulterations and the action taken were as follows:—

Nature of sample		Adulteration	Action taken	
Milk	...	13% extraneous water	...	Fined £3
„	...	6% extraneous water	...	Fined 10/-
„	...	12% extraneous water	...	Fined 10/-
„	...	13% extraneous water	...	Fined £2
„	...	8% extraneous water	...	Fined £2
„	...	25% deficient in fat	...	Fined £5
„	...	17% deficient in fat	...	Dismissed
„	...	17% deficient in fat	...	Fined £30
„	...	15% deficient in fat	...	Dismissed
„	...	15% deficient in fat	...	Dismissed
„	...	9% deficient in fat	...	Dismissed
„	...	23% deficient in fat	...	Time expired before information could be laid
„	...	32% deficient in fat	...	Dismissed
„	...	26% deficient in fat	...	Sample incorrectly taken
„	...	50% deficient in fat	...	Dismissed on payment of 26/- costs
Gin	...	Diluted with water 15.35 de- grees above legal limit	...	Fined £5
Coffee	...	30% chicory present	...	Warning
Egg substitute powder	...	5% deficient in Carbon Diox- ide	...	Warning
Citric Acid	...	Cream of Tartar	...	Warning

General Hospitals

The work of the Council's Hospitals at Louth and Brigg has been hampered owing to lack of both domestic and nursing staff and also to frequent staff changes. The proportion of nurses employed who are fully trained has been and still is much below what is regarded as essential.

New arrangements for the administration of the County Infirmary Brigg were put into operation during the year. Hitherto the Matron of the Brigg Public Assistance Institution had also acted as Matron of the Infirmary while the Master of the Institution also acted as Steward of the Infirmary. In future the Matron of the County Infirmary, Louth will have charge of the nursing and domestic staff at the Brigg Infirmary in addition to her duties at Louth. An Assistant Steward has also been appointed who will act under the Steward at the County Infirmary, Louth.

Mr. Nicholson, the Surgeon and Medical Superintendent at Louth County Infirmary had previously been appointed to act also in a similar capacity at Brigg.

The two Institutions are, therefore, now under one administration.

The number of patients dealt with in the County Infirmaries during the year are as follows:—

	Admissions	Births	Discharges	Deaths
County Infirmary, Louth	1704	181	1722	160
County Infirmary, Brigg	532	69	538	71

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

Midwifery

At the end of the year under review there were 173 midwives in practice in the Administrative County. Of this number 86 were employed as domiciliary midwives by District Nursing Associations under arrangements made with the County Council. 2 were employed as district midwives by the County Council and 31 were in private practice. The remaining 54 were in institutions, 39 being employed in County Council's Hospitals and Maternity Homes and 15 in other institutions.

There have been frequent changes in the midwifery staff employed by the Nursing Associations and considerable difficulty has again been experienced in filling vacancies and finding reliefs.

In some districts it has been impossible to obtain the services of a midwife because no house or other suitable accommodation was available for her.

The total number of births at which midwives were in attendance during the year was 6,323 of which 3,228 were domiciliary and 3,095 institutional cases.

Midwives conducted 1,898 of the domiciliary cases and 2,362 of the institutional cases while they were present as maternity nurses at 1,330 of the domiciliary cases and at 733 of the births taking place in institutions.

Midwives found it necessary to summon medical aid in 1,247 cases.

Medical practitioners called on the services of a consultant in 19 domiciliary cases.

Ante- and Post-Natal Care

The number of expectant mothers attending ante-natal clinics for examination was 3,580. There were 20 additional cases examined by general practitioners at the request of the County Council. Sixty cases attended for post-natal examination either at ante-natal clinics, welfare centres or at doctors' surgeries.

Out-patient clinics are held by Mr. MacDonald, one of the Council's consultant obstetricians, at the County Infirmaries at Louth and Brigg. At these 200 expectant mothers attended for advice and treatment. These were either new cases or cases referred from the ante-natal clinics.

Although beds are not specially reserved at the Council's Maternity Homes for ante-natal patients, cases are admitted when necessary. In 1944 the number dealt with at these Institutions was 106. Ten ante-natal beds are reserved for ante-natal cases at the Ministry of Health Emergency Maternity Home at Gate Burton. To these there were 180 admissions during the year.

Maternity Home Accommodation

Fourteen additional beds have been provided at the Cleethorpes Maternity Home and 16 at the Home at Scunthorpe. These beds came into operation near the end of the year and will do much to satisfy the increased demand that has existed for several years. During the year arrangements were also completed whereby unmarried expectant mothers can be admitted to the Quarry Maternity Home, Lincoln, which is maintained by the Lincolnshire Diocesan Association for Moral Welfare. The County Council has undertaken to be responsible for the maintenance of cases sent by them for a period of 16 weeks.

The following table gives particulars of the patients admitted to the Council's Maternity Homes and to the Gate Burton Emergency Maternity Home during 1944.

Institution	No. of admissions	Average Stay in days	Cases Delivered		Infant Deaths		Maternal Deaths
			By Doctors	By Mid-wives	Still Born	Died within 10 days of birth	
Cleethorpes Maternity Home	481	12½	102	350	16	7	—
Gainsborough Maternity Home	218	14	61	144	4	4	—
Gate Burton Emergency Maternity Home	820	14	33	690	12	4	1
Scunthorpe Maternity Home	790	13	99	650	30	11	5
County Infirmary, Brigg	65	16	9	56	—	2	—
County Infirmary, Louth	183	19	20	163	3	10	1
Spilsby Public Assistance Institution	2	21	—	2	—	—	—

In addition to those shown in the above table 139 cases chiefly abortions and miscarriages were admitted to institutions belonging to other authorities or voluntary bodies. The majority (100) of these cases were from Scunthorpe and were admitted to the Scunthorpe War Memorial Hospital.

Thirteen unmarried expectant mothers were admitted to the Quarry Maternity Home, Lincoln, under the arrangements referred to above.

Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia

There were 86 cases of puerperal pyrexia notified during the year. Fifty-five of these were admitted to hospital while 3 were nursed in their own homes by the Council's nurses.

Infant Welfare

Requests for the opening of additional welfare centres have been received from several parts of the County but owing to shortage of staff it has only been possible to meet these demands to a very limited extent.

Centres have been opened at Kirton Lindsey and Goxhill. Both are in charge of health visitors. Cases requiring the attention of a medical officer have to attend at the nearest centre where a doctor is available.

The number of infants under 5 years of age who attended the welfare centres for the first time during the year was 3,605 of which 3,154 were under the age of one year.

The total number of attendances at the centres for children under one year was 37,639 and for those between 1 and 5 years, 16,476.

The health visitors made 63,809 home visits to children under 5 years, of which 34,145 were in respect of infants under one year and 29,664 in respect of those over that age.

Child Life Protection

The health visitors undertake the supervision of children under Sections 206—220 of the Public Health Act 1936. In this connection they made 268 visits to 51 children during the year.

Boarded Out Children

Children boarded out by the Public Assistance Committee or by the Education Committee under the Children and Young Persons Act are also supervised by the health visitors. The number visited was 41 and the total visits made 407.

Premature Babies

In March of this year the Ministry of Health in circular 20/44 asked local welfare authorities to make special provision for the care of premature babies. It is not possible to implement all the recommendations at the present time. A start has however been made. Midwives are now required to record the weight of each infant on the notification of birth card. The County Council has undertaken to provide any equipment which the midwife or doctor considers necessary. Health visitors have been asked to give special attention to premature babies and they are notified of all cases born at home and of institutional cases prior to their discharge.

Consideration is also being given to the question of providing special wards for premature babies at some of the Council's institutions for those cases requiring this form of treatment.

Particulars of notifications of prematurity received since the Scheme came into operation in March of this year are as follows:—

Weight in lbs.	Born at Home		Born in Institution		Totals	
	No.	Deaths	No.	Deaths	Births	Deaths
1½ ...	2	2	—	—	2	2
1¾ ...	1	1	1	1	2	2
2 ...	3	3	1	1	4	4
2¼ ...	1	1	2	2	3	3
2½ ...	1	1	1	1	2	2
2¾ ...	1	1	5	2	6	3
3 ...	3	2	3	—	6	2
3¼ ...	2	1	1	1	3	2
3½ ...	2	1	3	2	5	3
3¾ ...	5	2	6	3	11	5
4 ...	4	1	7	—	11	1
4¼ ...	1	—	8	—	9	—
4½ ...	8	2	16	1	24	3
4¾ ...	7	—	13	1	20	1
5 ...	15	—	29	2	44	2
5¼ ...	6	1	21	2	27	3
5½ ...	20	3	30	1	50	4
Totals ...	82	22	147	20	229	42

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The year has been one of comparative freedom from infectious disease.

The number of notified cases was 3,205 as against 5,849 last year. The decrease is due largely to the fall in the incidence of measles.

There were only 70 cases of diphtheria notified during the year. There were three deaths from this disease.

Prior to the introduction of immunisation, outbreaks of diphtheria occurred with varying severity in one or more county districts almost every year. No such epidemic has appeared during the past three years. The figures given above, both for notified cases and deaths, are the lowest yet recorded for the County and are 60% below the average figures for the previous 5 years.

Notified Cases of Infectious Diseases in Urban and Rural Districts—1944

SANITARY DISTRICTS	Total number notified	Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	Erysipelas	Scarlet Fever	Typhoid Fever & Paratyphoid	Puerperal Pyrexia	Respiratory Tuberculosis	Other Tuberculous Diseases	Small-pox	Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Pneumonia	Encephalitis Lethargica	Polio-myelitis	Dysentery	Polio-encephalitis	Measles	Whooping Cough	Malaria (contracted abroad)
URBAN—																			
Alford	4	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—
Barton-on-Humber	105	1	—	3	—	2	5	3	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	4	82	—
Brigg	118	1	6	27	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	18	—	—	—	—	19	41	—
Cleethorpes Borough	351	10	11	107	—	11	21	10	—	1	2	32	—	1	—	—	20	123	2
Gainsborough	112	4	3	13	—	3	32	4	—	1	—	18	—	—	—	—	15	19	—
Horncastle	15	—	—	7	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	3	1	—
Louth Borough	44	—	2	13	—	9	2	—	—	2	3	—	—	1	7	1	2	2	—
Mablethorpe	11	—	—	4	—	—	2	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Market Rasen	6	—	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Scunthorpe Borough	1205	32	20	285	—	8	33	10	—	5	12	65	—	—	20	—	474	240	1
Skegness	34	4	1	12	—	—	9	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	3	—
Woodhall Spa	31	—	1	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	6	—	—	—	—	2	18	—
	2036	52	47	474	—	33	114	32	—	11	18	147	—	2	27	1	545	530	3
RURAL—																			
Glanford Brigg	357	7	10	82	1	—	13	14	—	1	—	18	—	2	2	1	77	129	—
Caistor	103	3	2	42	—	2	7	7	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	28	10	—
Gainsborough	104	1	3	17	—	39	7	3	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	4	27	—
Grimsby	58	—	1	21	—	1	8	7	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	14	5	—
Horncastle	112	2	2	9	—	—	11	5	—	—	—	6	—	1	—	—	3	73	—
Isle of Axholme	78	2	—	32	—	1	4	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	2	29	—
Louth	89	2	2	19	—	2	8	3	—	2	—	1	—	1	—	—	15	34	—
Spilsby	211	—	9	47	—	4	13	12	—	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	9	114	—
Welton	57	1	1	26	—	2	12	2	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	10	—
	1169	18	30	295	1	51	83	53	—	4	3	38	—	7	2	1	152	431	—
Total for County	3205	70	77	769	1	84	197	85	—	15	21	185	—	9	29	2	697	961	3

Isolation Hospital Provision

The County Council was called on to provide isolation for 444 cases during the year.

The majority were accommodated at the Council's own hospital at Brumby. The remainder were sent to institutions belonging to other authorities.

The following table shows the numbers admitted during 1944:

Isolation Hospital	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Scarlet Fever & Chicken Pox	Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	Scarlet Fever & Whooping Cough	Measles	Measles & Pneumonia	German Measles	Typhoid Fever	Erysipelas	Pneumonia	Whooping Cough & Pneumonia	Whooping Cough & Empyema	Whooping Cough & Mastoid	Pneumococcal Meningitis	Mumps	Other Diseases	TOTAL
Brumby	295	38	2	2	1	5	—	1	—	—	—	2	1	—	1	1	13	362
Scartho	20	25	—	3	—	1	2	—	1	2	2	4	—	1	—	1	9	71
Osgodby	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Foxby Hill	5	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
Doncaster	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
TOTAL	325	63	2	6	1	6	2	1	1	2	2	6	1	1	1	2	22	444

Diphtheria Immunisation

By arrangement with the district councils the County Council undertakes the immunisation of children under 5 years. The district councils continue to be responsible for the older children and for making the necessary returns, in respect of all children immunised, to the Ministry of Health.

The following table showing the percentage of children in the County who had been immunised at the end of the year has been compiled from the district council's returns. No particulars were available for the Alford Urban and Gainsborough Rural districts.

Percentage of Children Immunised

District			Age under 5 years	Age 5—15 years
Barton-on-Humber	U.D.	...	76.4	70
Brigg	U.D.	...	60	75
Cleethorpes	M.B.	...	63.55	83.51
Gainsborough	U.D.	...	89.3	60.18
Horncastle	U.D.	...	55	94
Louth	M.B.	...	82.3	95.5
Mablethorpe & Sutton	U.D.	...	71.3	90.4
Market Rasen	U.D.	...	50	50
Scunthorpe	M.B.	...	82.22	56.02
Skegness	U.D.	...	59	84
Woodhall Spa	U.D.	...	52	60
Caistor	R.D.	...	79.7	85.7
Glanford Brigg	R.D.	...	64.2	87.8
Grimsby	R.D.	...	58.5	88.2
Horncastle	R.D.	...	44	64
Isle of Axholme	R.D.	...	73.09	78.13
Louth	R.D.	...	80.3	89.6
Spilsby	R.D.	...	95	75
Welton	R.D.	...	62.9	39

The Council's health visitors make one or more visits to each infant as soon as possible after it has attained the age of one year, with a view to obtaining the parents' consent to immunisation.

Particulars relating to infants in the County who were due for immunisation in 1944 on reaching the age of one year are as follows:—

Births (1943)	...	5,049	}	6,759
Inward transfers	...	1,710		
Deaths	...	244	}	1,286
Outward transfers	...	1,042		
Number to be immunised	...	5,473	No. Immunised	... 2,627
			No. of refusals	... 1,356
			No. in which information was not obtained owing to staff shortage	1,490

TUBERCULOSIS

The number of cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis reported on primary notifications was 197 which is a decrease of 6 compared with the previous year. In addition there were 85 cases reported otherwise than by formal notification as compared with 87 in 1943.

Cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis formally notified during the year numbered 85 while 20 were otherwise ascertained. The corresponding figures for the preceding year were 87 and 26.

The following table shows the number of new cases reported from all sources for the years 1935—1944.

Year	New Cases reported	
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
1935	298	120
1936	248	91
1937	242	105
1938	264	118
1939	241	118
1940	230	106
1941	198	118
1942	226	106
1943	252	113
1944	253	105

Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1930

Summary of Notifications during the period from the 1st January, 1944, to the 31st December, 1944

Age Periods	Formal Notifications												
	Number of Primary Notifications of new cases of Tuberculosis												
	0/1	1/5	5/10	10/15	15/20	20/25	25/35	35/45	45/55	55/65	65 and upwards	Total (all ages)	
Pulmonary Males	—	—	5	4	14	21	31	13	16	9	3	116	
Pulmonary Females	1	1	5	3	10	17	23	12	7	1	1	81	
Non-pulmonary Males	1	11	8	5	3	3	7	5	2	2	—	47	
Non-pulmonary Females	—	8	10	4	4	4	4	—	2	2	—	38	

New Cases of Tuberculosis coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the above-mentioned period otherwise than by formal notification.

Age periods	0/1	1/5	5/10	10/15	15/20	20/25	25/35	35/45	45/55	55/65	65 and upwards	Total Cases
Pulmonary Males	—	—	—	2	3	3	8	5	4	2	2	29
Pulmonary Females	1	1	2	1	2	9	6	2	1	1	1	27
Non-Pulmonary Males	2	—	3	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	8
Non-Pulmonary Females	3	3	1	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	2	12

Dispensary Registers

The number of patients diagnosed as suffering from tuberculosis whose names were on the dispensary registers at the end of the year under review was 1,420. This figure was made up as follows:—

PULMONARY				NON-PULMONARY			
Adults		Children		Adults		Children	
Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
449	369	75	80	104	94	122	127
818		155		198		249	
973				447			

Institutional Treatment

The following tables show the number of patients admitted to institutions during the year.

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS

Institution				Adult Males	Adult Females	Children	Total
Branston Hall	...			—	90	40	130
Brumby Isolation	...			35	—	—	35
Scartho Sanatorium	...			71	13	4	88
„ Isolation Hospital	...			—	—	1	1
Kelling Sanatorium	...			9	—	1	10
Lincoln County Hospital	...			2	1	—	3
Louth County Infirmary	...			2	—	2	4
Brigg „ „	...			2	—	—	2
Liverpool Sanatorium	...			4	—	—	4
Grassington „	...			1	—	—	1
Creton „	...			4	—	—	4
Papworth „	...			4	1	—	5
Middleton-in-WharfedaleSan.	...			1	—	—	1
Preston Hall	...			2	—	—	2
Addenbrooks Hospital	...			1	—	—	1
Total	...	...	...	138	105	48	291

NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS

Institution	Adult Males	Adult Females	Children	Total
Branston Hall ...	—	—	11	11
Scartho Sanatorium ...	1	1	4	6
Gringley-on-the-Hill Hospital ...	—	—	15	15
Harlow Wood Hospital ...	11	8	9	28
Lincoln County Hospital ...	1	—	1	2
Royal Sea Bathing Hospital ...	2	3	—	5
Louth County Infirmary ...	7	5	21	33
Brigg ...	—	—	2	2
Grimsby & District Hospital ...	3	—	3	6
Robert Jones & Agnes Hunt Orth. Hospital ...	1	—	—	1
War Memorial Hospital, Scun- thorpe ...	2	1	1	4
Manfield Orth. Hospital ...	—	1	—	1
Addenbrooks Hospital ...	1	—	—	1
Total ...	29	19	67	115

Branston Hall Sanatorium

The following report prepared by Dr. Butcher, the Medical Superintendent, gives an outline of the work carried out at the Council's Sanatorium at Branston.

"In 1944 the work at the Sanatorium has continued along the usual lines and there is only one important change to report. In previous years any cases requiring major Thoracic Surgery, e.g. Thoracoplasty operation, have been sent to the Brompton Hospital in London while cases requiring adhesion section have been sent to Grimsby for the work to be done by Mr. Wynne-Edwards. Last year Mr. Wynne-Edwards commenced to do Thoracoplasty operations at Grimsby and it was therefore arranged to send any cases to Grimsby that required this operation; at the same time arrangements were made for Mr. Wynne-Edwards to come over to Branston at intervals of 3 to 4 months to see any cases that were considered suitable for operation, any that he had operated upon and any other cases requiring surgical opinion. This arrangement has worked in a most satisfactory manner and during the year Mr. Wynne-Edwards has paid 3 visits.

On the attached sheets will be found the figures of the actual work carried out at the sanatorium during the year and in brackets the corresponding figure for 1943 have been put. The admission and discharge figures of both adults and children show very little change from the previous years. Unfortunately over one third of the dis-

charges were non-quiescent on discharge; it is true that this figure includes the 4 cases transferred for Thoracoplasty, whom it is hoped will eventually be discharged as quiescent. Nevertheless if the non-quiescent cases be added to those who died it will be seen that in 50% cases there is no hope of a cure. It can reasonably be assumed that in the majority of cases this is unquestionably due to late diagnosis and until cases are discovered earlier there is not much hope of improving upon this figure. The only way of discovering early cases is by having X-ray films taken of the chests in all suspicious cases; this is being done on an increasing scale and it will be noted from the figures that there was an increase of 240 in the number of films taken; both in-patient and out-patient figures are up, particularly the latter.

There is a large increase in the Artificial Pneumothorax work and during the year 1,562 refills were given, both the in-patient and out-patient figures showing an increase. There is nothing outstanding in the remaining figures to which attention should be drawn.

As usual during the last few years Staff difficulties have been predominant, and there has been a shortage at times of both nursing and domestic staff.

ADULTS:

Admissions:	72 (74)
Discharges:	70 (75)
Quiescent:	32 i.e. 45.7% (32 or 42.7%)
Non-Quiescent:	27 i.e. 38.5% (26 or 34.7%)
Died:	7 i.e. 10% (13 or 17.3%)
Non-Tuberculous	4 i.e. 5.7% (4 or 5.3%)

CHILDREN:

	Boys	Girls	Total
Admissions:	38 (36)	20 (18)	38 (36)
Discharges:	37 (31)	18 (19)	37 (31)
Quiescent:	9 (3)	11 (10)	20 (13)
Non-Quiescent:	— (2)	2 (2)	2 (4)
Non-Pulmonary:	2 (4)	3 (2)	5 (6)
Non-Tuberculous	8 (2)	2 (5)	10 (7)

X-RAY WORK:

Total number taken:	...	1,224 (984)
In-Patients	...	612 (518)
Out-patients	...	556 (434)
Staff:	...	56 (32)
Bronchograms:	...	5 (6)
Adults	...	3 (1)
Children	...	1 (2)
Out-patients	...	1 (3)

ARTIFICIAL PNEUMOTHORAX WORK:

In-patients: No. of Artificial Pneumothoraces induced	...	29	(28)
Total No. of Refills given	...	906	(721)
No. of patients receiving treatment	...	40	(35)
No. of patients with Bilateral A.P.	...	15	(11)
Gas Replacements	...	3	(7)
No. of pneumo-peritoneums induced	...	2	(2)
No. of refills given	...	67	(17)
No. of patients receiving treatment	...	4	(2)
Out-patients: Total No. of Refills given	...	656	(460)
Total No. of patients attending	...	25	(19)
Patients attending with Bilateral A.P.	...	10	(5)
No. of Pneumo-peritoneal refills	...	21	(—)
No. of patients attending	...	2	(—)
Gas Replacements	...	—	(5)

OTHER WORK:

Transferred to Scartho for Thoracoscopy	...	22	(22)
Operations on Phrenic Nerve	...	13	(10)
Transferred for Thoracoplasty	...	4	(6)
Out-patients attending for supervision	...	21	(11)''

Maintenance Allowances (Memo 266/T)

The arrangements for the payment of allowances in accordance with the provisions of the above mentioned memorandum are under the supervision of the Almoner, Miss Price, who has been appointed for this purpose as well as for other duties in connection with the Council's health services.

During the year 105 cases were in receipt of allowances. The total amount paid to them was £3,886 5s. 2d., or an average of approximately £37.

Free Treatment

The Council has decided that all treatment provided for tuberculosis shall be without cost to the patient. This provision came into operation in November of this year and applies to both pulmonary and non-pulmonary forms of the disease.

VENEREAL DISEASES

The number of new cases attending the clinics serving the area was 210; seventy-eight were suffering from syphilis and 132 from gonorrhoea. The figures for the previous year were syphilis 74 and gonorrhoea 136.

The number of pathological specimens submitted for examination in connection with diagnosis and treatment, continues to increase and for 1944 amounted to 8,266, of which 4,499 were received from treatment centres, 2,781 from hospitals in the County and 986 from private medical practitioners.

Regulation 33 (b) which came into operation on 1st January, 1943, aims at ensuring that persons suspected of spreading venereal disease, submit themselves for examination and for treatment if this is found to be necessary.

Examination and treatment can only be enforced in those cases where there are two notifications from separate sources, indicating that the person concerned is suspected of suffering from venereal disease. Those in respect of whom only one notification is received, are however, interviewed by the Almoner with a view to securing voluntarily their attendance at the clinic.

It is not always possible to trace the person named on the notification.

During the year 46 notifications were received in respect of 3 males and 43 females. Thirty-two were traced following the receipt of one notification and 22 were persuaded to be examined voluntarily.

There were 8 suspects in regard to each of whom two notifications were received. One left the County before any action could be taken; in the remaining seven cases a statutory notice was served, irrespective of whether the cases had already attended the clinic following representation made to them after the first notification had been received.

All complied with the requirements of the notice.

CANCER

The Lincolnshire Joint Cancer Committee of which the Lindsey County Council is a member is responsible for the treatment of cases of cancer. Surgical and general treatment is undertaken by arrangement with the Joint Committee at the following approved hospitals:—

Boston General Hospital.

Grantham Hospital.

Grimsby and District Hospital.

Louth County Infirmary.

Lincoln County Hospital.

Scunthorpe and District War Memorial Hospital.

Stamford and Rutland General Infirmary.

Radio-Therapeutic treatment is carried out at the Joint Committee's treatment centre at the Scunthorpe War Memorial Hospital where they have 40 beds to serve the geographical County.

The number of cancer patients for whose treatment in general hospitals the County Council accepted responsibility during the year was 235. The number of Lindsey patients admitted to the Radio-Therapy centre at Scunthorpe was 188.

Deaths from cancer in the administrative County numbered 457 as compared with 466 last year.

BLIND PERSONS ACT, 1920

The number of registered blind persons in the Administrative County is now 410, of which 201 are males and 209 females.

The age groups of those registered are as follows:—

5 yrs.	5-16	16-21	21-50	50-70	70 and over
2	11	4	88	127	178

In connection with the prevention of blindness it is satisfactory to be able to record that in none of the 27 cases of ophthalmia neonatorum reported during the year was there any impairment of vision,

MENTAL DEFICIENCY

The following is a summary of particulars relating to mental defectives on the County Register at the end of 1944:—

(A) Number of Cases "Subject to be dealt with"

1. Under 'Order':—

(a)	(1)	In Institutions. (excl. cases on Licence)			
		Under 16 years of age	17	5	22
		Aged 16 years and over	149	173	322
	(2)	On Licence from Institutions			
		Under 16 years of age	—	—	—
		Aged 16 years and over	28	24	52
(b)	(1)	Under Guardianship. (Excl. cases on licence.)			
		Under 16 years of age	—	—	—
		Aged 16 years and over	9	14	23
	(2)	On Licence from Guardianship.			
		Under 16 years of age	—	—	—
		Aged 16 years and over	—	—	—

2. In "places of safety":—

Under 16 years of age	—	—	—
Aged 16 years and over	—	—	—

3. Under Statutory Supervision of whom 32 males and 24 females are awaiting removal to an institution	178	164	342
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4. Action not yet taken under any one of the above headings.

(a)	Notified by Local Education Authorities (Sec. 2 (2).)	—	—	—
(b)	Mental Defectives in receipt of Poor Relief:—			
	(1) In Institutions	9	11	20
	(2) Domiciliary	—	—	—
(c)	Otherwise 'ascertained'	3	2	5

(B) Number of Cases who may become "Subject to be dealt with."

1. In Institutions or under Guardianship dealt with under Sec. 3:—

(a)	In regard to whom the Local Authority contributes under its permissive powers	2	—	2
(b)	Maintained wholly by parents, relatives or others	—	1	1

2. *Reported to the Local Authority from any reliable source but as to whom no action has been taken	161	113	274
Of these 11 males and 9 females are under voluntary supervision.			

3. In Institutions but not under the Mental Deficiency Act	72	41	113
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TOTAL	628	548	1176
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*Includes 11 cases awaiting classification.



